

Appl. No. 10/065,195
Amtd dated July 12, 2004
Reply to Office Action of March 11, 2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 8-11 and 13-19 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 20-22 are allowable.

Applicant, by way of this response, has amended claim 1 to include all the limitations of claim 10 including its base claim and any intervening claims. As for claim 12, it has been amended to include all limitations of claim 13 and its base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant therefore submits that claims 1 and 12 are now patentable. Since claims 2-11 and 14-19 are directly or indirectly dependent on claim 1 or 12, these claims are also patentable. With respect to claim 13, it has been cancelled without prejudice. Therefore, Applicant submits that claims 1-12 and 14-22 are patentable.

Rejections under 35 USC § 102

Claims 1-7 and 12 are rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by Hsu et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,923,595). Applicant respectfully disagrees. However, to expedite prosecution, Applicant has amended claims 1 and 12, as discussed above, to render them patentable. Since claims 2-7 are directly or indirectly dependent on claim 1, these claims are also patentable. As such, Applicant submits that the rejection under 35 USC § 102(b) has been overcome and respectfully requests its withdrawal.

As for newly added claim 23, it recites an IC having a multi-port memory array. The IC also includes a refresh control unit generating refresh control signals to control refreshing of the memory cells through one of the ports and a contention detection circuit for detecting contention

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between refresh and memory access operations and suppressing refreshing operation when contention occurs. Applicant submits that the cited art of record fails to teach or suggest the invention as recited in claim 23. Since new claims 24-35 are directly or indirectly dependent on claim 23, all newly added claims are therefore patentable.

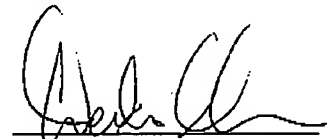
Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicant believes that all claims now pending in this application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned attorney at his number set out below.

Date: July 12, 2004

Respectfully submitted,



Dexter CHIN
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 38,842

Horizon IP Pte Ltd
166 Kallang Way,
6th Floor
Singapore 349249
Tel.: (65) 9836 9908
Fax: (65) 6746 8263